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THE EMPRESS EXPRESS

VOLUME III, No 31

EMPRESS, ALTA. THURSDAY, JAN. 6th, 1916

Price: One Dollar Per Year

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said--"EMPRESS"

A Holiday Excursion on the Empress to Bassano Line

With Instructions to Excursionists

To anyone desiring to make a hair-raising holiday tour, we would say--let him once in his life make the road by C.P.R. from Empress to Bassano. Especially if such a one be young--in the fizz and whirl of life, so to speak. I once took the trip. It still rankles in my memory. Before that my memory did not rankle. Any reader whose memory never rankled, let him pass this by. His levity is not fitting for such a topic. I have had invitations to make the journey again; some citizens of Bassano would give me a corner lot if I would only once travel there and start a printing office. But I tell them that I must decline, for my wife would not consent to have me a long time away. For would-be tourists then, we further venture upon the following instructions:

The train runs bi-weekly and stops by-minutely. You board your coach in the morning. (Rosette has come high in ink, but it is the only word for here.) If your eye fails with admiration upon the distant sky fringe--linger there all the time you can, for before the end of the journey is reached, the horizon will not horizon to you as it did in the rosate morning.

In looking for the front or rear portion of the train, you may generally be guided by the cowcatcher. As a rule, the cowcatcher is attached to the front, except in cases where it has been discovered that it could not catch a cow anyway, and has been reversed to the rear, to prevent occasional cows crawling in there, and doing damage.

Do not board the train at full speed. Give the engine a chance. If you cannot discern whether the train is in motion, ask any experienced traveller, or wake up a porter. By the way, the porter never start out walking ahead of the train. If you are not in training, or have much baggage to carry, you are sure to be overtaken by the outlandish engine before reaching Bassano. To be patted on the brow of your pantaloons, by a cowcatcher, and yanked relentlessly into space is not pleasant. I have not tried it, but have read of cases. Further, the Company does not appreciate such a thing. Rosette's cowcatcher has had its right-of-way spoiled, by some hot-headed pedestrian being spattered all over its first mortgage.

There is no dinner on the train. With the additional amount of freight coming about it, the chances would have to be detached--either to retain the dinner and cut out the passenger traffic, or to carry the passengers and leave behind the dinner. After discussion the latter was decided upon. There are, however, several stores in town at which you may provide yourself with about 20 or 25 meals for the journey. Be sure to take enough; remember you are starting on 180 miles. One unfortunate is reported to have run out of food when still ten miles from Bassano. He has not stopped eating yet.

It is well to take a spring mattress for your sleeping

HAYNES-STADDON

An interesting wedding took place in Empress, on Thursday evening, December 30. The happy pair were Miss Florence Staddon and Mr. Clarence Haynes, of Josephine. Acting as best man and bridesmaid were Mr. Robinson and Miss Essie Leach; with these were Mr. and Miss Moorhouse. A large number of young people from Josephine, among whom the bride and groom are popular, were present. Mr. and Mrs. Haynes will reside in Josephine. The Express joins with their friends in wishing them every happiness. Rev. J. M. Waggett performed the ceremony.

hours. Not that the train jags, but the sensation of being tossed up and down upon springs adds to the diversion. Besides, you travel more for your money. One of the town boys will supply you with a spring mattress.

When you sleep--do not, for the sake of other weary ones. I noticed two breeds of the snore when I made my trip. One was a loud snore, with the mouth open clean to the shoulder blades. The other was a quiet gentled snore, that resembled the exhaust of a bath tub. But neither sample are in any way called for. If you have made up your mind to snore, wrap your head in a feather bed, and insert the whole thing in the linen closet. Or if there is no closet, put the works out at the window. You might in the rush, have your head struck off by a bridge and get the Company mad, but you could do it in such a manner that the railroad would never know whose head it was.

In taking out your false teeth to sleep, do not throw them into the ice water tank. If many were to do that, it would cause confusion in case of accident, and perhaps delay at the resurrection. The train around your neck with stout string, into the water tank in the morning where they are. Upon reaching Bassano and walking down street, do not keep up the manner of spreading out your arms horizontally, as if attempting to grab something or to balance yourself. The time spent on the train will have developed in you this Grecian air, and it looks well in its place, but the street corner ignoramus does not know what to make of it. Moreover, you will have to break away from the habit soon or late, and it might just as well be done.

Do not conclude that this is a paid advertisement, or that I am heavily remunerated for my information. I could receive a large amount for my manifestation of public spiritedness, but since the journey to Bassano, I have always considered myself indebted to the C.P.R. for the long time I was allowed to remain on the train, in comparison with the small amount of money I paid for it.

Some time I may be persuaded to repeat the venture; to sleep at the rate of 70 miles an hour, and to be whirled through the air as on the tail of a comet is fascinating. One may not experience that on the Empress-Bassano train on every occasion; but there is a heap of time in which to imagine your self doing it.

The Asiatic Campaign

It is still incident that Germany is in earnest about striking hard blows in Asia Minor, and that she has some idea of reaching Egypt. The British expedition up the Tigris has no doubt halted; but Russia finds herself on the stern fight in Persia, in which struggle she reports successes. The Russian army is evidently moving slowly down the Persian Gulf, and will shortly be available for action against the Turks, who now hold Baghdad. The campaign will necessarily be a slow one. Little is definitely known of Germany's plans against Egypt, but it is rumored that about 150,000 German troops have been sent to the Mediterranean coast to co-operate with the Turkish troops, which are preparing to strike at Egypt. It is reported also, that Germany has run a railway across the desert, and that they will use this for the transport of troops. To make this, it is said the British troops from Gallipoli have been carried back to Egypt, to meet the new danger. One thing may be sure, that the British authorities know the extent of the German preparations in the East. It is not likely that Germany will find the Suez Canal as easy a situation as would Serbia.

NOW SILENT

The following are the temperatures recorded in Empress, from January 1st, 1916, for the Dominion Meteorological Dept.:
Jan. 1st. 10 deg. below zero
" 2nd. 15 " "
" 3rd. 28 " "
" 4th. 42 " "
" 5th. 36 " "

England and Munitions

Lloyd George's recent speech on Munitions has aroused England. Taking the public into his confidence, he said that England was slow to realize a situation. They had been too late to save Belgium, too late to save Serbia, too late to secure the Dardanelles, and that last May, after the war had lasted nine months, Britain's output of high explosives was 2500 a day, while that of Germany was 230,000. That England too was holding to shrapnel, while Germany put out high explosives; for defence, shrapnel is good, but for offence, high explosives are essential; and although Britain was now recognizing this and regulating itself accordingly, still there were needed 50,000 skilled men and 2,000,000 musketeers to work in the new factories which are being provided for this work.

Many Live Men Wanted

It takes live men to make a town. Dead men are only fit to inhabit cemeteries. If they are really decided dead, they would tend to lay them away in the sleep of the tomb; if they are dead to all enterprise and spirit, outside the narrow lines of their own selfish interests and yet persist in walking around, moving their calloused hearts and conscience where real business is wanted to push and throw with vigor, they are only like the drone bees in the way until they are stung to death, and dragged out the hive of legitimate industry. There really live men are worth more to a town generally than a round thousand of such useless material that lay around in the rubbish in a rushing stream that is achingly and foaming to run--wills and factories. Live men bless and dead men curse a town.

LEADERS FROM LELAND

December 20, 1915

Mr. F. Staples is spending his holidays with friends in Empress.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Pritchard, left last Tuesday, to spend Christmas at Homefield, Man.

Mr. Howard Robinson, of Social Plains, unloaded a car of settlers effects at Bindloss last week.

Miss Olive Sarvis arrived from Praelate, Sask., Thursday night, and is visiting at her home here for the holidays.

Messrs. John and George World left for Calgary, last week, to visit with friends over Christmas.

Miss Edith Insley came in from Estuary, Thursday, to spend the holidays at her home here.

Herb Brooks returned from his last week, where he has been employed on the Tucker Bros. giant threshing rig.

The Christmas program at Empress, Thursday evening, was attended by a number of our young people and very much enjoyed.

Miss Mona Insley closed a successful term of school near Benton, last week, and returned to spend the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Otter were passengers to Calgary, last Tuesday, intending after "doing" that city to proceed to Claresholm, and visit there during the holidays.

Jan. 3, 1916

"Casey" Jones, of Social Plains shipped a car of barley from Bindloss last Friday.

Geo. Robson, of Empress, visited with Leland people on New Year's Eve.

Miss Olive Sarvis returned to Praelate, Tuesday, after spending Christmas at her home here.

Jos. Falconer, returned from Calgary, last Monday, to spend Christmas at his home near Bindloss.

Miss Mona Insley left for Praelate on Tuesday's train, where she expects to teach for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Piper and family arrived from Barons, last Friday, and expect to make their permanent home here.

A social gathering was held at the Church, Thursday night, at which everyone indulged in an evening of fun and merriment.

The Leland young people were entertained at the Sarvis home on New Year's eve. All present participated in a merry time.

Miss Edith Insley was a passenger to Estuary, on Tuesday morning. Miss Insley visited over Christmas at her home here.

Mr. D. B. Mack showed up again last week, after an absence of a few weeks. He attended the horse show at Calgary, and purchased a "dinger" in the way of an automobile. D.ve thinks, "If you could afford a Ford," buy a Maxwell. It brought him home most of the remainder of the distance.

CROPS NOT AFFECTED BY MOON

Scientists are now convinced that the moon has no more influence on crops than it has upon the temperature or the amount of rain or the wind or any other weather element. The growth of plants depends upon the amount of food in the soil and in the air that is available for them and upon temperature, light and moisture. The moon obviously does not affect the character of the soil in any way, neither does it affect the composition of the atmosphere. The only remaining way in which it could influence plant growth, therefore, is by its light. Recent experiments, however, show that full day light is about 600,000 times brighter than full moonlight, yet when a plant gets 1-100 part of normal daylight, it thrives just better than in absolute darkness. If 1-100 part of normal daylight is thus too little to stimulate a plant, it seems quite certain that a 600,000 part cannot have any effect at all. It is therefore a mere waste of time to think about the moon in connection with the planting of crops. The moon, say the scientists, has nothing more to do with this than it has to do with the building of fences, the time for keeping hogs, or any other of the innumerable things over which it was once supposed to exercise a strong influence.--Rural Educator.

I.O.D.E. Notes

The Empress Chapter I.O.D.E. beg to acknowledge with thanks the generous donation of \$20 from the Leland ladies, this money to be used in Red Cross purposes. Our Chapter has this week received a telegram from Toronto, thanking the Society for the generous donations and excellent work done since the Chapter has been organized.

With help from the Leland ladies we should be soon strong and able to make a good showing just at this time, when money and supplies are most needed.

The regular weekly meeting I.O.D.E. will be held Tuesday, Jan. 11th, at 2:30 p.m., at Mrs. Betsford's. A good attendance is requested.

Through the kindness of Mr. Malton and Mr. Peters, the I.O.D.E. have had the use of their store building on Third Avenue for the past five months. Mr. Storey very kindly loaned a heater for the building. The ladies desire to thank these gentlemen for their valuable assistance.

Union Church, Sunday next--"Martin Luther, or when Germany was Reformed." Grand Theatre. All welcome! 7:30.

Good recreation means good health. Ice skating is one of the best and cleanest recreative pastimes known. We want everybody to come to the Arena Skating Rink. Large sheet of good ice. Enjoyable time.

Everybody is coming to the U.F.A. Convention. Farmers don't fail to join the U.F.A. Excursion to Calgary, Monday, January 17th. Special Train, Low Rates, and a good time guaranteed. For further particulars see, Wm. Engelbrecht, Secretary.

The Printer's Dollars---

Where Are They?

A dollar here and a dollar there, scattered over numerous small towns all over the country, miles and miles apart--how shall they be gathered together? Come home, ye truants, to thy father's house; ye are wanted. Come here in single file, by columns or platoon--so that the printer may send thee forth again, to battle for him and vindicate his credit. Reader, if you discover a stray dollar around your premises, send him home tenderly, for he art ours. We would also ask you to be sure you haven't a couple of stray dollars sticking about your clothes.

The label on this paper will tell you the date your subscription to the Express expires or expired. The list is corrected right up to date. If your label is not correct, it shall be pleased if you will let us know.

To those who have, in the past, made it a practice to pay for the Express in advance and thereby not caused us extra work and trouble in collecting same, we wish to extend our sincerest thanks.

SPECIAL NOTICE

Commencing with this issue the Express will be published on Thursday morning of each week, instead of on Friday as heretofore. In making the change the publishers hope to give the advertisers better service, and at the same time suit the mail service, especially the local district mail. Advertisers are therefore requested to hand in their changes of advt. not later than noon on Mondays.

East and West

On the Russian and Western borders, the situation gives much encouragement to the Allies. The Russians are reinforcing and equipping themselves with great speed, and it is probable that by spring she will have the finest army of her history. On the West, the offensive has passed to the Allies; and it seems doubtful if Germany will be able to regain it. The recent French upon the Marne-Wallerhof, in which they took 1,500 prisoners, promises to be the prelude to other actions of a similar nature. There are rumors of the Kaiser making anther's sake for Paris and England; such a thing does not strike us very much at this stage of the game. It is, however, only likely, considering the knowledge that the Allies will fight to the bitter end, and recognizing that the usual bluffs is becoming more serious, that Germany will make one death struggle in the spring, as the only alternative to be taken.

THE EMPRESS EXPRESS

Published in the interests of Empress
and district.

Clean, Bright, and Newsworthy

J. McMAILL WAGGETT, Editor

Published every Friday from the Express Office, Third
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or Great Britain; \$1.50 to United States.Agents and correspondents wanted. Address The Express
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ADVERTISING RATES

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2c. per line first insertion and 8c. each subsequent insertion

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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LOCAL READERS

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Local notices announcing concerts, socials and any other
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individuals or organizations, will not be inserted in these
columns unless paid for at the rate of 10c. per line each inser-
tion.

TRANSIENT ADS.

Such as "Wanted," "For Sale," "Lost" and "Found," not
exceeding one inch, 50c. first insertion and 20c. each subse-
quent insertion.

EMPRESS, ALTA., THURSDAY, JAN. 6th, 1916

WHEN THE CHANCELLOR SPEAKS

"When the Chancellor speaks, it is a great day for the Reichstag, but it is not always a great day for the Chancellor." Thus the "Vossische Zeitung," commenting on Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg's much anticipated speech on the peace-interpellation. We are now in a position to gather the response given the Chancellor's speech in his own country, and thus to discern something of her internal affairs. The speech can be summarised as "boasts and mendacity," picturing Germany as anticipating herself against a "war of destruction," and as "in full confidence of her successes," declining responsibility for the continuation of the distress which fills Europe and the world. The enemies of Germany were, he said, building their hopes on victory by exhaustion, to which he rejoined that, given "proper distribution," her provisions were sufficient. While as regards men, she had not gone so far in the calling up of recruits as either Russia or France. In this particular connection the Chancellor appears discreetly to have omitted any reference to the resources of Britain. Indeed, the speech was notable for its consistent ignoring of painful facts whose significance grows gradually but surely on the German people. There is a disconcertingly chill reception of the speech by the greater part of the German press. It goes however, without saying, that any hopes of "peace proposals," if such were ever seriously entertained, have fallen to the ground; and through her official spokesman, Germany stands angrily exultant

over "military and diplomatic victories," and ready to listen only to peace suggestions from enemies who confess themselves beaten. The Socialists were not able to make any impression effective enough to counter this impression; but all who are able to speak with authority on the internal condition of Germany and the feeling of the great masses of the people, insist that the pressure of the war is increasingly felt, and that its prolongation is viewed with a misgiving and a dismay consoling ill with the Chancellor's truculent heroics.

ANOTHER GLIMPSE AT AMERICAN SENTIMENT

A minister in the United States contributes the following paragraph to an English paper:—"The war drags on, and I suppose it must. But the great majority of Americans have the greatest confidence in your winning out in the long run, and notwithstanding our curious neutral position, we all are secretly praying for an English victory, and many do so publicly. It is a little hard to tell just how public sentiment runs in England, and it looks as though your censorship was doing you more harm than good. The German official reports seem always to be the truth, whereas we get many reports from England that have to be changed later. Of course, some of this may be caused by our own publishers, although it seems to be true of our most reliable papers."

Did you ever chance to hear a mother remark in speaking of her child, "How like its mother!" just at the moment that the dear little thing was making a grab for its father's hair?

If you want a receipt for that "popular" mystery known to the world as the Emperor Bill. Take all the remarkable high-tights of history. Out of their qualities fashion a pill—Dash of old Ajax defying the lightning; Touch of King Solomon fall of old seas; Bit of Goliath the countryside frightening; Something of Samson a wedding his jaws; Gib Annias and Mrs. Suppertime;

Tarquin and Sheperd, and grim Captain Kidd; Narcissus of Self, a most ardent admirer; Pinch of Pandora, a-lifting the lid; Something of Attila, Vulcan, and Gog put in; Jupiter groping around in a fog put in; Caesar, and Nero, Quixote and Humbug; Sandwich of Luther inside of a Cannibal; Take of these elements all that is fusible, Send 'em to Krupp to be put in a crucible, Soak 'em in paraffin, petrol, and gum, And out of the mixture the Kaiser will come.

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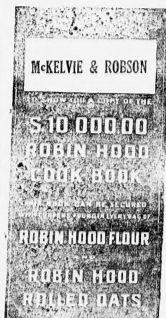
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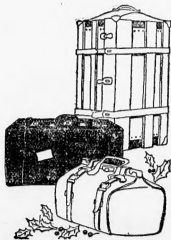
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Blind In America Get Uncensored News

Miss Helen Keller and other blind persons in the United States are obtaining uncensored news from the capitals of belligerent countries according to Miss Keller. Newspapers are published for the blind in London, Paris, Berlin and Vienna. These newspapers are not censored, she says, because they are printed in shorthand Braille, a point type used for the blind, which the censors are unable to read.

Through the medium of these journals in the Braille system, what is probably the most authoritative article on Germany's lack of food has reached this country. For the first time it is revealed, that every man woman and child in Germany is living on slender rations, doled out by weight, determined on after a conference of chemists, scientists and physicians in Berlin.

The journal which brings the information is Die Neue Zeit, or The New Time, a Socialist publication for the blind, issued in Berlin.

"These uncensored accounts of conditions in the warring countries, tell me the true sentiment among the working people and the intolerable conditions that surround them," said Miss Keller. "These hours are almost at the breaking point. Miss Keller made this expla-

nation to show how she obtained information concerning the war disclosed in a speech made recently on preparedness.

Holding Salonika

German forces are being massed along the Greek frontier to strike for Salonika. For the success of the German Eastern campaign, it is necessary that she must have the Allies out of this stronghold. But there is a security of men for the game, and it is said that the Kaiser is donning German uniforms on the Bulgars, in order that Greece may be outwitted and let in the invaders. But that Greece will be blinded, or will love the Bulgarians and Turks better because they are in German uniform, we have yet to see. Meanwhile, the Allies are rapidly preparing for emergencies, while they cannot number there much more than 200,000 men, they are being supplied with munitions, which will count more than men.

Germany is not yet prepared for the attack, but the clash cannot be delayed very long; it promises to be exceedingly hot, and we expect it to end with the Allies still in the worst spot. Already the Bulgarians have lost 120,000 men in these operations against the French and British, and an attack upon Salonika must be more costly still, and probably more futile.

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